

It's Carnaval at Centro Kibrahacha!

Centro Kibrahacha in Piedra Plat held their Carnaval party this past Friday; complete with their own Prince and Pancho and Carnaval Queen Competition. The center, which provides a place for the elderly to go for activities and social contact conducts their own Carnaval celebration every year, as often sitting all day in the hot sun is too much for the more than 200 retirees that are their clients..

Diane Uchtman, the director of Kibrahacha welcomed some important guests from Holland to Friday morning's Carnaval party, including Lamya M'Haidra, the queen of Holland's Summer Carnival held in Rotterdam in July. The Dutch band A.N.T.G., which is made up of singers and musicians from all the Antillean islands kindly entertained the gathering with some rousing Carnaval music.

The social hall was filled with the Carnaval spirit, as Master of Ceremonies Rolo Fingal introduced the Prince and Pancho, Rosindo Frolijk and Charles Dankerlui. They assisted Rolo in presenting the five queen candidates Ms. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, splendid in their Carnaval regalia. As the ladies showed how well they could still move those hips, despite some being over ninety years old, the judges were hard put to select the Reina Kibrahacha, but finally Ms. Monday, Chichi Franken had the winner's sash placed on her by the actual Carnaval Queen 2007, Cristina Treyo.

It was a morning of fantasy and fun for both the volunteers that care for the center's clients, as well, and they crowned their own Carnaval Queen, Marivon Luidens. Assisting in dressing her in her queenly sash was Aruba's Youth Carnival Queen, Jonally Wever. Diane offered thanks to all those that help to make the Carnaval party a wonderful experience for the elderly, and in particular, Hennaly Chirino, the E.P.I. intern that worked so hard to make the morning a success.